

Docket No.: 1405. 034

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Satoshi OKUYAMA, et al.

Serial No. 09/772,000

Group Art Unit: 2151

Confirmation No. 8470

Filed: January 30, 2001

Examiner: Avi M. GOLD

For: TEXT MESSAGING SYSTEM AND METHOD

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed June 4, 2004, and having a period for response set to expire on September 7, 2004. (The USPTO was closed September 4-6, 2004).

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

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02 FC:1202 72.00 DA

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on September 7, 2004

By: Frank E. Brown

Date: September 7, 2004

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NEW CLAIMS

New claims 21-24 present no new matter and are provided to afford a varying scope of protection.

Claims 21 and 22 recite a text messaging system including a plurality of information terminals, and servers connected to the information terminals via communication lines, including "status detection means provided in the information terminals for detecting and reporting to the servers an operational status of the information terminals including at least a status of a connection with the communication lines; and status administration means provided in the servers for storing, per user of any one of the information terminals, an operational status of the information terminals reported from the status detection means."

Claims 23-24 recite a text messaging system including a plurality of information terminals and servers connected to the information terminals via communication lines, including "a detector detecting and reporting to the servers an operational status of the information terminals including at least a status of the connection with the communication lines: . . . (and) a controller storing, per user of any one of the information terminals, the operational status of the information terminals reported from said status detection means."

These, and other, features of claims 21-24 are patentably distinguishable over the cited art, and they are submitted to be allowable for the recitations therein.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: September 7, 2004

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